

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Fastening system for fastening a jewellery element to an item of jewellery, comprising

a setting constructed on the item of jewellery with a support part and a fastening device,

and a jewellery element releasably fastenable to the support part of the setting by means of the fastening device,

the support part comprising an aperture which is capable of at least partially receiving the jewellery element, said support part further comprising a groove, the groove being of an annular construction and surround the aperture for the jewellery element,

the fastening device being constructed on the support part and comprising a leaf spring, said leaf spring being arranged in the groove of the support part and being of a correspondingly curved construction,

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and the jewellery element comprising a recess which is constructed to work in cooperation with the fastening device when the jewellery element is located in the aperture of the support part,

wherein

the leaf spring of the fastening device is ~~manually~~ externally actuatable ~~from an external region of the jewellery accessible to a wearer thereof, and which~~ and comprises a latching element constructed on the leaf spring,

and the recess of the jewellery element is constructed to work in cooperation with the latching element of the fastening device when the jewellery element is located in the aperture of the support part.

2. (Previously Presented) Fastening system according to claim 1,

wherein

an actuation element is further provided on the fastening device to facilitate an external actuation of the leaf spring.

3. (Previously Presented) Fastening system according to claim 2,

wherein

the actuation element is constructed in the form of a lever which is arranged perpendicular to an extension direction of the latching element on the fastening device.

4. (Previously Presented) Fastening system according to claim 2,

wherein

a notch is provided in the support part to guide a movement of the actuation element.

Claims 5 and 6 (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) Fastening system according to claim ~~[[6]]~~ 1,

wherein

the leaf spring of the fastening device together with the latching element is tangentially displaceable in the groove of the support part after a radial actuation of the leaf spring.

8. (Previously Presented) Fastening system according to claim 1,

wherein

the aperture of the support part is designed as a cylindrical bore.

9. (Previously Presented) Fastening system according to claim 1,

wherein

in the support part perpendicular to the aperture for the jewellery element a bore is constructed in which the latching element of the fastening device projecting into the aperture is guided.

10. (Previously Presented) Fastening system according to claim 1,

wherein

the jewellery element is constructed as a setting for a precious stone or a pearl.

11. (Withdrawn) Fastening system according to claim 1,

wherein

the jewellery element comprises a cylindrical portion and a head and is constructed to fasten releasably at least one decorative element comprising a bore to the support part.

12. (Previously Presented) Fastening system according to claim 1,

wherein

the recess provided in the jewellery element is constructed in the form of an annular groove.

13. (Previously Presented) Fastening system according to claim 1,

wherein

the jewellery element comprises a chamfer below the recess which is constructed to facilitate manual engagement enabling a displacement of the latching element constructed on the leaf spring when the jewellery element is inserted into the aperture of the support part.

14. (Withdrawn) Item of jewellery, comprising a support part, a fastening device and a jewellery element releasably fastened to the support part by means of the fastening device,

the support part comprising an aperture which is capable of at least partially receiving the jewellery element,

the fastening device being constructed on the support part and comprising a leaf spring,

and the jewellery element comprising a groove which is constructed to work in cooperation with the fastening device when the jewellery element is located in the aperture of the support part,

wherein

the leaf spring of the fastening device is externally actuatable and comprises a latching element constructed on the leaf spring,

and the groove of the jewellery element is constructed to work in cooperation with the latching element of the fastening device when the jewellery element is located in the aperture of the support part.

15. (Withdrawn) Item of jewellery according to claim 14,

wherein

the leaf spring of the fastening device is arranged on an outer surface of the support part.

16. (Withdrawn) Item of jewellery according to claim 15,

wherein

the leaf spring of the fastening device is flush mounted in the outer surface of the support part.

17. (Withdrawn) Item of jewellery according to claim 14,

wherein

the support part is constructed in such a manner that an actuation of the leaf spring is possible by reaching behind.

18. (Withdrawn) Item of jewellery according to claim 17,

wherein

the support part in the region of the aperture for the jewellery element comprises a chamfer which is covered by a side edge of the leaf spring.

19. (Withdrawn) Item of jewellery according to claim 14,

wherein

the support part is constructed as a jewellery ring and the leaf spring of the fastening device is of correspondingly annular construction,

20. (Withdrawn) Item of jewellery according to claim 14,

wherein

the aperture of the support part is designed as a cylindrical bore.

21. (Withdrawn) Item of jewellery according to claim 14,

wherein

in the support part perpendicular to the aperture for the jewellery element a bore is constructed in which the latching element of the fastening device projecting into the aperture is guided.

22. (Withdrawn) Item of jewellery according to claim 14,

wherein

the jewellery element is constructed as a setting for a precious stone or a pearl.

23. (Withdrawn) Item of jewellery according to claim 14,

wherein

the jewellery element comprises a cylindrical portion and a head and is constructed to fasten releasably at least one decorative element comprising a bore to the support part.

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